

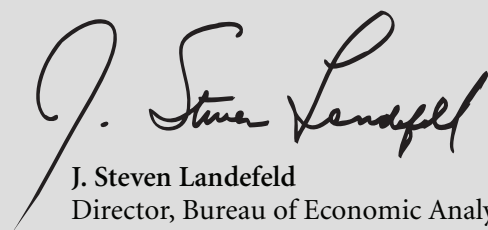
Director's Message

Of particular note in this month's SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS is an article presenting a new set of estimates that the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) will make available on a regular basis in the future. We've aggregated inputs into KLEMS categories to give our customers a more detailed understanding of the U.S. economy at the production level. The new estimates will undoubtedly prove useful to economists.

In addition, for the first time, BEA has published a preview of its upcoming 2002 benchmark input-output accounts, which includes preliminary gross output estimates.

Other articles in this issue present and discuss the preliminary estimates of gross domestic product and related estimates for the second quarter of 2005, estimates of cross-border investment, and new estimates of fixed assets and consumer durable goods for 1994–2004.

On another note, I am pleased to inform BEA's customers that over the past 2 months, BEA employees have conducted a number of retreats in order to develop plans for the upcoming fiscal year. Senior staff then met on September 19–21 to review these plans, set organization-wide priorities, and update the BEA Strategic Plan for FY 2006–FY 2010. A draft of the Strategic Plan will soon be made available to BEA users and the public on BEA's Web site. Our intent in posting it is to solicit feedback from our users about their statistical needs and to decide how BEA can best respond to meet those needs.



J. Steven Landefeld
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